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clock, in the inner room of the clock room, averages 8° above that of the Riefler, with about the same average weekly changes, but with smaller daily fluctuations.

For comparing the performance of these clocks, the rates of the two Höhwu clocks, No. 3 and No. 8, for the past two months are given below, with their residuals, and those of the Riefler and Dent, for the same period:—

	Rate.	v	Temperature Correction.
Riefler	$-0^s.34$	$\pm 0^s.04$	$\pm 0^s.03$
Dent.	$+0.91$	± 0.11	± 0.07
Höhwu, No. 3	$+0.13$	± 0.08	. . . . . .
Höhwu, No. 8	$+0.57$	± 0.09	. . . . . .

The rates of the two Höhwu clocks do not show any dependence upon the temperature.

The two mean time clocks, Frodsham and Howard, are rated to Pacific Standard time, and the rates are changed as often as necessary, by the use of small weights, to keep the errors within a small fraction of a second. R. H. TUCKER.

September 24, 1913.

NOTE ON COMET *c* 1913 (ZINNER-GIACOBINI).

A telegram received on October 24th announced the discovery of a comet by ZINNER and gave an observation of it on October 23d by HARTWIG at Bamberg. On the basis of this observation and two on October 24th and 25th by Dr. AITKEN of the Lick Observatory, parabolic elements and an ephemeris were computed.

On October 27th a telegram was received giving the elements computed at Kiel and also stating the suspected identity of this comet with Comet 1900 III. A conditioned solution of the orbit on the basis of the same three observations was immediately undertaken, the assumed period being that derived by KREUTZ for Comet 1900 III. The results of this conditioned solution established the identity of the two comets. Both the parabolic and elliptic elements and the ephemerides have been published in *Lick Observatory Bulletin*, No. 245.

The period of the comet is 6.464 years, this being the second return since its discovery in 1900 by GIACOBINI. It was not rediscovered at the time of its first return. When discovered this year it was in the constellation *Scutum*. Its motion southward and eastward has since taken it into *Sagittarius* and *Capricornus*. Its nearest approach to the Sun was on November 2nd, when it was at a distance of about 91,000,000 miles.

ANNA R. KIDDER.

BERKELEY ASTRONOMICAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTE ON COMET *c* 1913 (NEUJMIN).

According to the orbit published in *Lick Observatory Bulletin*, No. 245, this comet is moving in an ellipse with a period of 17.83 years. The orbit is inclined 15° to the plane of the ecliptic. It is a very interesting fact that the comet's path lies for a short distance very near to the orbit of the planet *Mars*. For a distance of about 40,000,000 miles the two orbits are almost parallel, the comet's path being but 570,000 miles further from the Sun than that of *Mars*. At the present perihelion passage, which occurred on August 16th of this year, *Mars* was considerably ahead of the comet, so that they did not get closer than 100,000,000 miles. The comet is now in the Square of *Pegasus*, but it is too faint to be seen except with the largest telescopes. On November 4th, Professor BARNARD of Yerkes Observatory described the comet as seen in the 40-inch refractor as showing no trace of nebulosity and looking exactly like a star of 13½ magnitude. For a detailed account of the discovery of the comet and its appearance, see the note by Dr. AITKEN on September 23, 1913, printed in these *Publications* for October, 1913. SETH B. NICHOLSON.

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NOTE ON COMET *d* 1913 (DELAVAN-WESTPHAL).

The fourth comet of the year was discovered by DELAVAN at the La Plata Observatory, Argentina, on September 26th. At that time it was in the constellation of *Aquarius* and was moving westward and northward.

In *Astronomische Nachrichten* 4619, Mr. ADOLF HNATEK gives search ephemerides for the current year corresponding to different assumptions for the period of WESTPHAL'S periodic comet. Interpolation from these, on the basis of the